The *Laſt Teſtimony*, & *Declaration* of the Reverend *Samuel Croſſman*, D. D. and Dean of *Briſtoll*: Setting forth his Dutiful, and True Affection to the Church of *England* as *by Law Eſtabliſhed*.

Preface.

THis Following Paper was Deliver'd to my hand by the Reverend Author of it, with a Charge to Communicate it to the Mayar, and Other Worthy Members of the City of Briſtol: *But being Prevented by ſome Earneſt Buſ'neß in* London, *ſo that I could not Acquit my ſelf of my Truſt ſo ſoon as I intended, I found the Memory of This Reverend Good Man, ſo Courſly, and ſo Injuriouſly Treated by Divers Ill Tongues; that inſtead of Doing him Right by ſome Few Written Copies to his Particular Acquaintances and Friends, I rather made Choice of Committing the Original to the Preſs, as a more Publique Way of Juſtice and Vindication.*

It was This Gentlemans Lot, among ſome Others of his very Loyal, and Orthodox Neighbours, to fall under the Laſh and Scandal of Several Reproches: Wherein He was ſo Sollicitous to Clear Himſelf, that next to the Great Work of making his Peace with God, The Thing in the World, that lay neareſt his Heart, was the Leaving of a Good Name behind him: Which he thonght could not better be Secur'd then by the Solemnity of This Following Declaration. *It was his Own Proper Act; Sign'd by his Own Hand; And in Delivering it over to the World in the very Syllables that I reccived it, I reckon that I have done my Duty.*

John Knight.

To the Right Worſhipfull Sir *William Clutterbuck*, Mayor, with the Worſhipfull, and others my very Good Friends, and Neighbours, the Citizens of *Briſtol*.

HAving had my Lot caſt by Divine Providence for Sixteen years amongſt you; and having now through great indiſpoſition of body received the Sentence of death, I am deſirous (though with brokenneſs of words, through extremity of pain) yet to take my laſt leave of you and the World; with that ſincere nakedneſs of heart, and truth, wherewith I expect to appear before my Judge and Saviour.

I rejoice and am humbly thankfull to God, that I (though a wretched Sinfull man) may now dy in the Communion of the Reformed Church of *England* as eſtabliſhed by Law. And as a peaceable Subject under my moſt gracious Prince, to whom I and all his Leige-people do owe a moſt chearfull and ready obedience: not only for Conſcience Sake, he being Gods Vicegerent over us; But even as the fruit of juſt gratitude for his moſt admired conduct of the Government for our Common good, while we have been ſo formidably involved in Succeſſive and almoſt inextricable dangers.

I do rejoice with you in thoſe ſignall expreſſes, you and your *City* have ſhewn, both of Loyalty toward your Prince, and of Love to the Church of God: And do beſeech Almighty God that you may yet encreaſe therein more and more. But foraſmuch as the ſeeds of ſeverall great Evills, and very Pernicious both to Church, and State, have grown up here (as the envious mans Tares, where better Seed had been ſown) I do pray you, that I may, by theſe few lines, leave this as my laſt ſenſe, to them who have been thus drawn aſide into the ſnare of the evill one: It is now no time either to flatter with Softneſs, or to chide with Paſſion (*Moſes* himſelf might not ſpeak unadviſedly with his lips, how froward ſoever the People were at the waters of Strife) I do pity them with all my heart, and do wiſh as well to their Perſons and Souls as I do to my ſelf and my own everlaſting concerns. But poor men, I fear they have ſcarce throughly conſidered the ſad riſe, and Hiſtory of their preſent diſſents from this Church. With what indecent virulencies theſe Feudes began at *Frankfort*;

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